



Marine Veteran Fred Smith Speaks at Pentagon Event

Participating in the "Battlefield to Boardroom" event, retired Marine Fred Smith, chairman, president and chief executive officer, Federal Express and Vietnam War veteran spoke to a Pentagon audience about his Vietnam experiences. The program was part of the nationwide Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War, of which MCICOM is a sponsor.

"Everything that went into FedEx that made the business what it is today relates to what I learned in the Marine Corps," said Smith. "I've always been grateful for that education and for those I've served with." Smith served two tours in Vietnam, earning the Silver Star, Bronze Star and two Purple Heart medals.

A key lesson Smith says he learned from the Marines was ensuring each operating company of FedEx is managed collaboratively and is capable of operating independently. A take-away lesson is to work together, but have leaders capable of operating independently when the situation calls for it.

MCICOM was the first command to become a sponsor of the commemorative activities, which will include the presentation of an honorary flag to MajGen Juan Ayala, Commander, MCICOM, at a later date.

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